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UNCLAS QUITO 002927

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR S/ES-CR

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: CONGRATULATORY LETTER FROM PRESIDENT GUTIERREZ TO PRESIDENT BUSH

¶1. Embassy received a congratulatory letter from President Gutierrez to President Bush dated November 2 on November 4 under a cover letter from acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Edwin Johnson.

¶2. Text of Letter from President Gutierrez:

Your excellency:

On behalf of the Ecuadorian people and the Government I preside, it is a great pleasure for me to extend to Your Excellency my warmest congratulations for your recent re-election as President of the United States of America.

I am convinced that the task entrusted to you by your people to continue exercising the highest mandate of your country is the motivation that will allow your Administration to decisively face the new challenges of the international agenda and to contribute with your best efforts to the well-being of the American people.

I make vows for your success in this new stage in the performance of your delicate duties, and I would like to extend an invitation for you to visit my country, at a date suggested by Your Excellency through the Department of State.

Your visit will be an occasion to strengthen even more the excellent relations of friendship happily existing between our countries, and it will allow us to set new goals in the common road of cooperation and understanding that we personally and our Governments have been able to develop.

I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

Lucio Gutierrez Borbua, Constitutional President of the Republic of Ecuador.

KENNEY